

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /074 W
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P R 251920Z JUN 75

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1086

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 1219

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GW, WB, EC

SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY EC OFFICIAL ON DIRECT ELECTION
OF BERLINERS TO EC PARLIAMENT

REF: BONN 8810

1. TAGESSPIEGEL CARRIED BRIEF THOUGH PROMINENTLY
FEATURED STORY JUNE 25 CITING STATEMENT BY HIGH OFFICIAL
IN EC BRUSSELS INFORMATION OFFICE, VON LINGEN, THAT THERE
WAS NO JURIDICAL BAR TO FULL PARTICIPATION BY WEST
BERLINERS IN DIRECT ELECTIONS TO EC PARLIAMENT. ACCORDING
TO EC OFFICIAL, WHO IS VISITING CITY, BERLIN PARTICIPATION
IN DIRECT ELECTIONS TO EC PARLIAMENT ENVISAGED FOR
MAY 1978 WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH FULL VOTING RIGHTS
ALREADY POSSESSED BY BERLIN REPRESENTATIVES IN PRESENT
EC PARLIAMENT. VON LINGEN ADDED SOMEWHAT UNCLEAR
COMMENT THAT "JURIDICALLY WEST BERLIN IS TIES TO THE
EC NOT THROUGH THE FRG BUT THROUGH A SUPPLEMENTARY
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PROTOCOL." TAGESSPIEGEL ADDED THAT DIRECTOR OF EC

BERLIN INFORMATION OFFICE FREISBERG CALLED UPON BERLIN
SPD AND CDU TO ACT QUICKLY TO FILL VACANCIES EXISTING
IN BERLIN REPRESENTATION IN EC PARLIAMENT SINCE DEATHS
SEVERAL YEARS AGO OF KLAUS-DIETER ARNDT AND FERDINAND
FRIEDENSBURG. CDU BUNDESTAG REP KLAUS-PETER SCHULZ IA AS PRESENT
SOLE BERLIN REPRESENTATIVE (OF THREE ALLOWED
UNDER FRG QUOTA) IN EC PARLIAMENT.

2. STATEMENTS BY VISITING EC OFFICIAL AND BY
HEAD OF EC BERLIN INFORMATION OFFICE MAY BRING PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTION ISSUE TO PUBLIC NOTICE BEFORE ALLIES AND FRG
HAVE HAD FULL OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER ALL
RELEVANT ASPECTS. WE MAY WELL ALSO NOW FIND OURSELVES
WITH SOVIET PROTEST. FOR TIME BEING, IF WE RECEIVE PRESS
INQUIRIES, WE PROPOSE TO SAY ONLY THAT WE HAVE
SEEN NEWSPAPER STORY BUT THAT ANY COMMENT WOULD BE PRE-
MATURE SINCE THERE ARE AS YET NO CONCRETE PROCEDURES FOR
DIRECT ELECTION TO EC PARLIAMENT. WE WILL ALSO QUERY
SENAT AND HEAD OF EC BERLIN OFFICE TO SEE WHETHER THEY
CAN SHED FURTHER LIGHT ON THIS DEVELOPMENT. SELIGMANN

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